

From: Mark D. Hendricks
To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Microsoft in schools

Letting microsoft give software and hardware to schools is a very bad idea for many reasons.

1. It builds another generation of americans that think microsoft is synonymous with computing.

(Using Word and Excel is NOT computing -- using gcc is!)

2. It allows microsoft to extend their monopoly to those vulnerable.

3. It allows microsoft a huge advantage to promote their products.

4. Microsoft already has a huge stranglehold on business and colleges

5, Homogeneous systems are vulnerable. (viruses, worms etc.)

If anything, microsoft products should be banned from all educational facilities, so that young peoples' minds are not fingerprinted with microsoft's concept of what computing is... that way they could learn to develop their own ideas and systems which would eventually lead to some competition for microsoft -- not to mention some quality software.

Maybe the best thing to do is to make Microsoft buy a piano for every school in the country -- they don't become obsolete and music has been proven to have an impact on learning, where computing has not...

The decision to not break up Microsoft is terrible, Microsoft has effectually killed off all desktop competition and is a monopoly that appears to have brain-washed the Judicial System of this country. Letting Microsoft continue operations without punishment eventually will doom this nation's software industry, because having no choice kills development.

In fact Microsoft hasn't had an idea of there own in 15 years -- and has continued to steal ideas, but who will it steal from when all of the competition is out of business?

Mark

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